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(AUCTIONEERS TO THE GOVERNMENT,  
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Share, Coal and

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"TO-KWA-WAN"  
COAL STORAGE.

Codes used:

A.B.C. 4th & 5th Editions.

A1. TELEGRAPHIC CODE.

Telegraphic Address

MERUON HONGKONG.

PUBLIC AUCTION

THE Undersigned have received instructions from Mrs. OUTHWICK, to sell by Public Auction,

on

THURSDAY,

the 12th March, 1914, at 2.30 p.m.,

at No. 2, Knutsford Terrace, Top Flat, Kowloon.

VALUABLE HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, etc., etc.

Therein contained:

Comprising:—  
Fine Teak Bed Room Suite (Twin Bedsteads), Large Wardrobe (three Mirrors), Toilet Sets, 4-Fold Screens, New Rattan Arm chairs (Upholstered), Large Blackwood Desk, Carpets, etc., etc.  
(Full Particulars from Catalogue.)  
On view day of sale.  
Terms:—As usual.

HUGHES & HOUGH

Auctioneers.

Hongkong, March 6, 1914.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction,

on

FRIDAY,

the 13th March, 1914, commencing at 2.30 p.m. at their Sales Rooms, No. 8, Des Voeux Road, Corner of

Isa House Street.

A QUANTITY OF TEAKWOOD AND VALUABLE BLACKWOOD FURNITURE, etc., etc.

Comprising as follows:—

TEAKWOOD—Dining and Drawing Room Furniture, Upholstered Arm-chairs and Sofas, Carpets and Rugs (new), Brass mounted Bedsteads, Bureaux, Wardrobes, Washstands, etc., Sideboards, Dinner Waggon, Extension Dining Tables and Chairs, etc., etc., Dinner and Dessert Services, Crockery, Sundry Glass Ware, Cooking Stoves, Kitchen Utensils, Cutlery, etc., Brass Fenders and Fire Brasses, etc.

Also

Three Pianos, Large Blackwood Screen, Wall Brackets, Inlaid Blackwood Trays, Blackwood Folding Chairs, Cabinets, Over-mantels, Side Table, Desk, a variety of Stands, etc., etc., several pieces of Chinese Porcelain, 1 Barograph, New Tantalus, etc.  
(Full Particulars from Catalogue.)  
Terms:—As usual.

HUGHES & HOUGH

Auctioneers.

Hongkong, March 10, 1914.

PUBLIC AUCTION

THE Undersigned have received instructions from Mrs. OUTHWICK, to sell by Public Auction,

on

TUESDAY,

the 17th March, 1914, at 2.30 p.m., at No. 8, Knutsford Terrace, Top Flat, Kowloon.

VALUABLE HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, etc., etc.

Comprising:—

Upholstered Arm chairs and Box Couches (Practically new), Pictures, several pieces of good Blackwood Furniture, Teak Bed Room Suite (Twin Bedsteads) Toilet Sets, etc., etc., etc., Electric Fan.  
(Full Particulars from Catalogue.)  
On view day of sale.  
Terms:—As usual.

HUGHES & HOUGH

Auctioneers.

Hongkong, March 10, 1914.

DONT Forget after the show, 8 p.m.

and Light Refreshments

ALEXANDER GAVE

Open till midnight

## AUCTIONS.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions from Mrs. OUTHWICK, to sell by Public Auction,

on

FRIDAY,

the 27th March, 1914, at 11 a.m., at No. 3, Knutsford Terrace, Top Flat, Kowloon.

VALUABLE HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, etc., etc.

Consisting of:—  
Upholstered Arm-chairs and Sofas, Occasional Tables, large Blackwood Desk, Pictures, Paintings, Curtains, etc., Fine Bedroom Suite, Carpets, etc., etc.  
(Full Particulars from Catalogue.)  
On view day of sale.  
Terms:—As usual.

HUGHES & HOUGH

Auctioneers.

Hongkong, March 10, 1914.

## HOTELS

THE STATION HOTEL

NATHAN ROAD,

KOWLOON.

ELECTRIC LIGHT AND FAN.

BATH-ROOM TO EACH ROOM.

Cold and Hot Water throughout.

PRIVATE AND PUBLIC BARS.

BILLIARD ROOM.

Private Dining Room.

EXCELLENT CUISINE.

For Particulars apply to

THE MANAGER.

TEL. NO. K122. Tel. Address "STATION."

Hongkong, Feb. 3, 1912.

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KING EDWARD HOTEL

Central Location.

Electric Trams Pass Entrance.

Electric Lifts, Fans and Lighting.

Kitchen and Sanitary Fittings.

Hot and Cold Water System throughout.

Best of Food and Service.

Telephone 373.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS: "VICTORIA."

R. H. NORTH,

Manager.

KINGSCLERE HOTEL,

HONGKONG

UNRIVALLED position in the Hill

District, overlooking the Botanical

Gardens and facing the Harbour.

Numerous quiet Suites with luxuriously

fitted Bathrooms, Telephone and Electric

lights throughout.

Telephone No. 1122.

Cable Address: "Kingsclere."

A.B.C. Code 5th Ed.

Hongkong, September 1, 1908

1208

BRAESIDE

PRIVATE HOTEL.

STANDING in its own grounds with

Tea and Croquet Lawns, Large

and Well Furnished Rooms, Every

home comfort. Fine View of the Harbour.

Telephone No. 690.

Apply to Mrs. F. W. WATTS,

"Braeside," 20, Macdonnell Road.

Hongkong, September 2, 1907.

WYNDHAM HOTEL,

29 WYNDHAM (FLOWER)

STREET.

LOCATION good for Hillside Scenery

and ONLY TWO MINUTES' WALK

FROM BUSINESS CENTRE.

Families, Residents and Tourists

made thoroughly comfortable.

Terms Moderate.

Run on First-Class Lines.

Under the Personal Supervision of the

Proprietress

M. S. HOY.

LESSONS IN CHINESE.

MR. LI HON FAN, a Chinese graduate

versed in literature, has been a teacher

to European officials and merchants in this

Colony for over ten years.

He has a good method of teaching

European to pass the Chinese examination, and

is possessed of a first rate certificate as a

Chinese teacher. He has also a good know-

ledge of Mandarin and Hakka.

Those who intend learning the Chinese

language are requested to write care of

China Mail office or direct to 37, Helly

Wood Road, 1st floor.

Hongkong, May 17, 1912.

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**VICHY**  
NATURAL MINERAL WATER  
FRENCH GOVERNMENT'S Springs.  
**VICHY CELESTINS**  
In bottles and half bottles for kindred troubles, bladder  
half bottles trouble - Gout - Gravel - Arthritis  
**VICHY GRANDE-GRILLE**  
For Liver trouble  
**VICHY HOPITAL** For Indigestion.  
REFUSE SUBSTITUTES. MENTION NAME OF SPRING REQUIRED  
**VICHY-ETAT PREPARATIONS**  
**VICHY-ETAT SALT** Natural salt from the waters. - In tins and bottles.  
**VICHY-ETAT TABLETS** 2 or 3 after meals make digestion easy.  
**VICHY-ETAT COMPOUNDS** To make your own digestive aerated water.

## SUFFRAGETTE HOAX

MRS. PANKHURST'S DOUBLE.

—Wrong Woman Arrested.

There were wild scenes in Canning-

hill-square, Kensington, recently when

Mrs. Pankhurst addressed her first meet-

ing since her return to England. She

threw out a challenge to the police to

arrest her, and this, no doubt by pre-

arranged plans, was accepted. In the

result, they took into custody a woman

who had been got up to represent the

Suffragette leader, and it was only when

they had taken their captive to the sta-

tion that they discovered their mis-

take.

From an upper window of the house

to which she went upon returning to

England twenty-four hours previously,

Mrs. Pankhurst addressed for half an hour

a gathering of four or five hundred people,

in which there was a strong hostile ele-

ment. Her speech was marked by fre-

quent interruptions, the ringing of bells

and the singing of comic songs. After

declaring that she would never serve her

three years' penal servitude, and that

she was still a solitary person, she

challenged the Government to re-arrest

her and subject her to forcible feeding.

"I am coming out to you in a few

minutes," she remarked, and soon after-

wards a woman who was thought to be

Mrs. Pankhurst left the front door and

advanced down the long garden path.

Pending her appearance, the hostility

of the crowd grew, and women who struck

up the Marseillaise found their voices

drowned in a chorus of "Who killed

Mrs. Pankhurst?" to the tune of "Cook

Robin." The crowd surged around the

gateway, but detectives managed to fight

their way to the front. As the woman

came out of the gate the Suffragettes

among the crowd surrounded her with

the intention of offering protection, and

immediately a fierce fight ensued.

Detectives succeeded in getting hold of

the woman, and for the next five or ten

minutes pandemonium prevailed. The

battle being a severe one. Pulled hither

and thither the woman seemed in a de-

perate plight, and shrieked wildly. The

police had great difficulty in retaining a

hold upon her, as they were being hustled

hither and thither by the head with

sticks. Despite the overwhelming num-

bers of their opponents, however, the

officers succeeded in dragging their captive

slowly through the dense crowd.

DETECTIVES' DUEL.

Again and again the mob rushed at

the detectives and knocked them about,

and at one moment the prisoner and two

Suffragettes, who attempted to rescue

her, were lying on the ground with a

couple of officers sprawling near them,

all for the moment being trampled under

foot. Fortunately, a space was cleared

around them, and the women were

assisted, or rather dragged, to their

feet, but the two police officers

on attempting to rise were struck

and flung back on to the ground.

Then uniformed men came to their

assistance, and drove the crowd slowly

down the hill into Holland-Park-avenue,

where, despite the motor-buses and tax-

icabs, they surged into the middle of the

street.

Fighting still continued, but, little

by little, the police pushed

and carried their prisoner to Not-

ting-hill Police-station about a couple

of hundred yards away. It was

then that they found that Mrs.

Pankhurst had eluded them after all.

There was no doubt that it was she who

spoke from the window. Her supporters

recognised her, and her voice was un-

mistakable. The woman who left the

house was accompanied by several others,

and her face was disguised to represent

Mrs. Pankhurst. So closely did her

figure resemble that of the militant leader

that not only was the police deceived,

but the Suffragettes themselves were

firmly convinced that Mrs. Pankhurst

was being arrested, and were determined to

prevent it. A manly was over the wo-

man's head as she passed through the

gate, but even when it was torn off the

deception was not discovered.

At the close of the struggle the police

were utterly exhausted, and they con-

fessed that it was the toughest fight they

had been in. According to them, eight

were flung at them, or used as weapons,

and twelve or fourteen were conveyed

to hospital with injuries. It is

reported that seven women were arrested,

including, it is alleged, Mrs. Pankhurst.

Daily Telegraph.

## SHIPPING GAZETTE.

(From "Shipping and Engineering.")







• U.S.S. Barnegat Flag in. Rear-Admiral E. F. Hildreth, Commander-in-Chief, United States Atlantic Fleet, Rear-







# BY TELEGRAPH.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

## THE BRITISH ARMY.

STATEMENT BY COLONEL SEELY.

LONDON, Mar. 11.

In the House of Commons, Col. Seely, Secretary of State for War, in introducing the Army Estimates, said that although there was a shortage of 8,000 regulars, there was a surplus of 13,000 reservists. Consequently, there was no cause for anxiety. The spending up of the mobilisation arrangements had been remarkable, and the country had now an expeditionary force of 102,000 which would be able to complete all details. 50,000 of all arms could be ready in a few hours to go anywhere. Measures were being considered to solve the problem of providing for the education of those promoted from the ranks. Since recruits had been advertised for, they had secured 1,000 more than during the corresponding period of 1913 though the Territorials were still 36,000 short. This year's recruiting was the largest on record and there had been a continuous and substantial increase in the efficiency of the national reserve, which was now over 217,000.

## "THE TIMES" REDUCED TO ONE PENNY.

LONDON, Mar. 11.

The Times announces that in view of the grave importance of the political situation, the paper will be reduced in price to one penny from the 16th inst.

## OBITUARY.

LONDON, Mar. 11.

The death is announced of Ernest Dresden, a well-known racehorse owner.

## THE SOUTH AFRICAN INDIANS.

Echo of the Troubles.

LONDON, Mar. 11.

The Rev. F. C. Andrews on his arrival in London was welcomed by a number of Indians and garlanded by the poetess Sarojina Naidu.

Mr. Andrews, in a statement to Reuter's representative, extolled the chivalrous patriotism of Mr. Gandhi during the railway strike and the heroism and endurance of the Indians. He also referred to the generous and fair-minded treatment of himself by the Government; and stated that he had been immensely impressed by General Botha's sterling character and simplicity. General Botha assured Mr. Andrews that he would do whatever he could to act justly by the Indians.

[Mr. Andrews, it will be remembered, was sent last November to South Africa from St. Stephen's Church, Delhi, to ascertain the facts and report on the situation.]—Ed.]

## GERMANY'S ARMY.

LONDON, Mar. 10.

The National Zeitung says that it is reported at Munich that a new Army Bill is in prospect, authorising the re-arming of the German artillery at a cost of £25,000,000 sterling.

## WAR AGAINST PLUMAGE.

LONDON, Mar. 10.

In the House of Commons the second reading of the Bill prohibiting the importation of plumage was carried by 297 votes to 15.

## RUSSIA AND GERMANY.

A Puzzling Situation.

LONDON, Mar. 10.

The alleged Russian warlike intentions, says Reuter's Berlin correspondent, towards Germany, which was given prominence to in an article in the *Koelische*, is beginning to be the chief topic of public discussion. The *Berliner Tageblatt* declares that Germany and Austria have too long yielded to Russian menace, and any further encroachment must be met with an absolute veto.

The *Lolalanzeiger* says that the persistent poisoning of Russian opinion against Germany may ultimately result in the exhaustion of Germany's patience.

A telegram from St. Petersburg states that an official communication denies that M. Pourtales or any member of the German Embassy is in any way connected with the *Koelische* article.

The *Times*, in an editorial on the anti-Russian campaign in Germany, says that the fact that the agitation has been allowed to continue, unhampered, indicates that it is favoured in authoritative quarters. The journal is of opinion that fresh demands on the German taxpayers are contemplated.

# BY TELEGRAPH.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

## THE HOME RULE QUESTION.

THE DEBATE.

LONDON, March 10.

In the debate that followed Mr. Asquith's speech, Sir Edward Carson frankly admitted that some advance had been made. He asserted that if the Government would remove the time-limit he would call an Ulster Convention to consider the proposals, but not otherwise.

Mr. Ramsey MacDonald, in the course of his remarks, said—Let us have peace if we can. If we cannot, let us have Home Rule. He added that the Labourites did not wish for a General Election until the Bill had passed.

Mr. Tim Healy said he would rather have no Bill than one with the proposed modifications.

The debate was then adjourned.

## Press Comments.

The Unionist Press generally takes Sir Edward Carson's standpoint that the six years' limit is impracticable.

The *Times*, *Daily Mail*, *Standard*, and *Daily Graphic* declare that Mr. Asquith's offer is doomed to failure unless he abandons the time-limit.

The *Morning Post* says that Mr. Asquith was simply manoeuvring for position in view of the inevitable appeal to the country.

The *Daily Telegraph* declares that Mr. Asquith has confessed that he has been beaten by the Ulstermen. He must go further, or yield to the demand for a General Election. The Government's prestige has been shattered at the eleventh hour by the concession.

The *Daily News* says that the Government's generosity has exceeded expectations. It is the thick, not the thin, end of the exclusion wedge. If adopted, Irish unity will be severely endangered; if rejected, the country will expect the Government to no longer temporise, but severely repress rebellion.

The *Daily Chronicle* expresses its opinion that the time-limit is not a very material point.

## The Nationalists.

The Nationalist members of the House of Commons have unanimously agreed that Mr. John Redmond should express their views in the debate on the proposals.

## Lord Milner on the Situation.

Lord Milner, in a letter to *The Times* regarding Mr. Asquith's statement, says that the statement makes it imperative for the signatories to the recent Covenant to redouble their appeal to the nation to make it clear to the forces driving Mr. Asquith that a more generous offer must yet be made.

## "Lloyds" and a General Election.

The insurance at Lloyds against a General Election before the 30th June has risen from fifteen to thirty guineas within a week.

LATER.

## Date of Resumption of the Debate.

The second reading of the Home Rule Bill will probably be resumed on the 30th inst.

## THE MEXICAN CRISIS.

LONDON, March 10.

The case mentioned yesterday that Sir Cecil Spring Rice had ordered to be investigated is that of the Roer ex-leader, Mr. Sayman, locally called "General" Enyman.

## A List of Sixty-Three Outrages.

In the Senate, Mr. Fall, a Republican Senator, read a list of 63 outrages which had been committed on Americans in Mexico, and urged the use of American forces to protect foreigners.

## President Huerta's Order.

President Huerta has telegraphed a peremptory order to all Federal commanders in the field to begin an aggressive campaign today against the rebels in the north. The despatch contained a caution that they should give protection to foreigners and give a warning to the recipients that they would be held responsible for any report of the rebels.

# BY TELEGRAPH.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

## THE MILITANT SUFFRAGETTES.

MORE DISGRACEFUL CONDUCT.

A Fight With Police.

LONDON, Mar. 10.

Mrs. Pankhurst was addressing a gathering of Suffragettes at St. Andrew's Hall, Glasgow, when a large force of police, with truncheons drawn, rushed into their midst. A fierce fight ensued. The platform was guarded by barbed wire, concealed in flowers. Tumblers, flower-pots and chairs were thrown at the police, and stormers, pistols, and miniature bombs were exploded, while many women used clubs. The police used the baton right and left, and eventually Mrs. Pankhurst was seized and dragged off into a taxi-cab and conveyed to the police station. A score of women and many constables were injured. Subsequently an attempt was made to storm the police station, but this was repulsed by hundreds of police, mounted and on foot.

"War" on Sir E. Carson.

Suffragettes have declared war on Sir Edward Carson, considering an unsatisfactory interview he accorded the women yesterday who waited at the door of his house in London since Thursday last.

LATER.

## An Outrage at the National Gallery.

A "VELASQUEZ" DESTROYED.

A suffragette named Mary Richardson was arrested at the National Gallery for slashing a picture at a famous Velasquez "Venus," that cost £10,000.

## The "Modern Venus".

Another telegram states that Miss Richardson, in a statement, said she destroyed the picture of the most beautiful woman of mythology as a protest against the Government destroying Mrs. Pankhurst, "the most beautiful character of modern history." Any outcry, she added, would be mere hypocrisy.

Richardson appeared at Bow Street Police Court, where she was committed for trial, bail not being allowed.

## A Serious Loss.

It is estimated that the picture has depreciated in value to the extent of £10,000. The repairs to it will cost £100.

## Galleries Closed.

The National Gallery and the Wallace Collection have been closed until further notice.

## CHINA'S MINERAL RESOURCES.

### STATEMENT IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

LONDON, March 10.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Tim Healy put a long question in regard to the concessions to China.

Mr. Asquith, Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, replied that His Majesty's Legation had for the last eleven years taken, and would continue to take, every opportunity of impressing upon China the necessity, in their own interests and those of China, of developing the mineral resources in accordance with the Mackay Treaty. The Imperial Government, having considered the question of railway and industrial development in the Yangtze, and the claims to which their predominant commercial and economic interests entitled them to, a communication to that effect had been made to the Chinese Government. As regards the working of the mines and industries covered by the Szechuan Charter, the Imperial Government was awaiting a communication from China as to whether they would make any fresh offer of compensation for the cancellation of the concession. If an arrangement could be made with China for the modification of the original contract, or an exchange for another contract, the Imperial Government could see no objection thereto instead of pressing the claim for compensation.

## AMERICAN LABOUR TROUBLES.

LONDON, Mar. 10.

Three hundred deputy sheriffs (says a telegram from Sacramento) armed with pickaxe handles, fought six hundred of the unemployed, as a result of the arrest of "General" Kelly and eighteen of his followers. Many heads were broken and the unemployed, who belong to the Industrial Workers' World, which raised the churches of New York on the 30th inst., were eventually scattered with a few blows.

# BY TELEGRAPH.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

## THE M. C. C.'S FINAL MATCH.

LONDON, March 11.

A telegram from Newlandee states that the Marylebone C.C. v. Western Province match ended in a draw. This was the final match of the tour.

## BRITISH AVIATION FATAL TY.

### MILITARY OFFICER KILLED.

LONDON, March 11.

The aviator, Captain Downer, fell from a height of 2000 feet up the River Avon, and was killed.

He fought at Magersfontein and elsewhere.

## MR. BOWSKILL RELEASED.

LONDON, March 11.

Sir Edward Grey, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, announces that the Rev. Mr. Bowskill, the English missionary arrested recently in Portuguese Congo, has been released on parole, pending an inquiry.

## ANOTHER SYDNEY STRIKE COLLAPSES.

LONDON, March 11.

A telegram from Sydney states that the ironworkers on strike have decided to resume work on the old conditions.

## ITALIAN POLITICAL CRISIS.

LONDON, March 11.

A telegram from Rome states that the Cabinet has resigned.

## SOUTH AFRICA'S INDEMNITY BILL.

LONDON, Mar. 10.

The Indemnity Bill passed the third reading by 70 votes to 12.

## REFUSE DISPOSAL IN HONGKONG.

### MR. BOWLEY'S CRITICISMS.

A Plea for a Better System.

At the fortnightly meeting of the Sanitary Board held yesterday afternoon Mr. F. B. L. Bowley called attention to the unsatisfactory system of refuse disposal in vogue in the Colony, and on his motion the Board adopted a resolution expressing the opinion that refuse washed up on to the various foreshores should be collected and burnt.

Those present at the meeting were: The President of the Board (Mr. D. W. Traftman) (in the chair), the Acting Vice-President (the Hon. Mr. A. F. Churchill), Colonel Irwin, Dr. Fitzwilliams, Mr. F. R. L. Bowley, Mr. Ng Hon Tsz, Mr. Chan Kai Ming, Dr. Francis Clark (Medical Officer of Health), Dr. W. W. Pearso (Assistant Medical Officer), and Mr. E. W. Hamilton (Secretary).

Mr. Bowley asked the following questions standing in his name:—(i) How many of the sewer flushing tanks mentioned on pages 23 and 24 of Mr. Osbert Chadwick's preliminary report on the sanitary condition of Hongkong dated 10th April, 1902, are now in operation? and how many additional flushing tanks are now in operation for the City sewers?

(ii) In the report above mentioned Mr. Chadwick offered to consider the question of flushing the storm water drains further when a complete plan of the drains was before him, a footnote states that the plan was then (in 1902) being prepared: was such plan prepared and submitted to Mr. Chadwick? if not, why not? if yes, what further recommendations (if any) did he submit? and to what extent have such recommendations been carried out?

(iii) Is the water of nullahs used for flushing the storm water drains as recommended by Mr. Chadwick? if not, why not?

(iv) Have all unnecessary storm water drains been filled up as recommended by Mr. Chadwick?

(v) What means exist of flushing and cleaning the storm water drains of the City in the dry season? and what steps are being taken in this dry season to flush and clean such drains?

(vi) What officers or officers are now in charge of (a) the maintenance and (b) the cleaning of (i) the sewers and (2) the storm water drains of the City? and what staff is employed for these works?

(vii) When was the covered nullah from above Wanchai Market to the sea last cleaned?

(viii) When were the other storm water drains in the Wanchai district last cleaned?

(ix) Have any sanitary officers called the attention of the Building Authority to the insanitary condition of the footpaths under verandahs and buildings in Queen's Road East in breach of the verandah regulations? if so, what was the result? and what has the Building Department done in the matter?

# THE MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LTD.

We are informed that the Mercantile Bank of India, Ltd., has to-day received a telegram from their head office stating that at the approaching annual general meeting of the Bank's shareholders, the Directors will recommend a final dividend of 4 per cent. free of income tax, on the "A" and "B" shares, (making 8 per cent. for the year); that £30,000 will be added to the reserve fund; £1,000 to officers' pension fund; £3,000 be written off freehold bank premises account; and that £34,600 be carried forward as undivided profits.

the attention of the engineer in charge of roads to the insanitary condition of the footpaths in Queen's Road East and other parts of the Wanchai district which are maintainable by the Government? if so, with what result? if not, will the Head of the Sanitary Department do so now?

(xi) Have any sanitary officers called the attention of the engineer in charge of roads to the insanitary condition of Cross Street, Wanchai, where much food is sold, the buyers having to wade through seas of mud in showery weather? if so, with what result? if not, will the Head of the Sanitary Department do so now?

The President replied that he had referred the first eight questions to the Colonial Secretary and had asked for information upon them. The answer to the first half of the ninth question was "Not recently," and to the second half, "Yes." The same answers applied to questions 9 and 11.

Mr. Bowley asked if the information in answer to the first eight questions will be available at the next meeting?

The President was afraid he could give no undertaking on the matter, but said he would endeavour to obtain them by that time and submit them to the Board.

REUSE ON THE FORESHORES.

Mr. Bowley, in accordance with notice, moved the following resolution:—

That in the opinion of this Board steps should be taken to collect and burn in situ the debris which has been deposited by the action of wind and tide on the beaches of the Colony surrounding the area off Cow-co-Chow, where the refuse of the urban districts is dumped into the sea from the Sanitary barges.

Mr. Bowley said that Hongkong was not an entirely desirable place to spend the summer in, but it had certain compensations. One of the most popular of these compensations was sun-bathing. What could be more delightful or more refreshing, after sweltering in the office all day, than to snatch up one's bathing bag when the clock strikes five, and to hurry down to the waiting launch, motor boat, or sailing craft, and speed away to the nearest sandy beach—to dive overboard and swim ashore through the clear, pellucid waters to the silver strand; for the children to run races or build castles on the sands; or, if one was not disposed to such vigorous pastimes, to stroll along the beach and hunt for shells, sea-anemones, and other marine marvels, or to gather ferns and flowers from the nearest hillside, returning to the boat to enjoy a good tea and a cruise home in the gloaming, after having spent a very pleasant two or three hours? Such were the possible pleasures of life in the good old times before the days of sanitary barges and ash-buoys, but now things were very different. If bathers went westward, past Green Island to Lamna, Pokfulam, or to Silver Mines Bay, or the sands of Lantau, they had very likely to pass through masses of floating debris and, on swimming ashore, to find at high-water mark, instead of sea-weed, sea-shells and sea-anemones, a rotting mass of stable sweepings peppered with dead cats, bad odours, and pumelo skins—the unrecorded exports of one of the greatest shipping ports in the world. Sun-bathing had been the subject of much discussion in recent years. The Colonial Secretary had advised all schoolboys to learn to swim; a body of Sea Scouts has been formed, and motor boats were multiplying. The waters of the Colony had been scoured far and wide for desirable bathing beaches—only to find in a good many cases that the sanitary evils had been there first. This nuisance was of recent growth. Formerly the refuse of the City was dumped and burnt at what was now known as Kennedy Town and then taken over in junk to Gin-drinkers' Bay, where it was deposited on high-water mark and burnt. But it was found that in calm weather, when there was no wind, many of the dust boats did not reach Gin-drinkers' Bay, but emptied themselves in some mysterious fashion en route rather than go all the way to Gin-drinkers, and anything that could float returned and deposited itself on the foreshores of the harbour. In order to remedy this a watch was set on the tides and the currents, and it was found that rubbish, dumped at the "Ashes" buoy near Cow-co-Chow was not washed back to the harbour, and that point was selected for the refuse to be dumped. A steam launch and steam barges were acquired to take the refuse out to this spot and dump it in the sea regularly. But the nuisance was not abated; it was only pushed out of sight for the time, and the Department, hiding its head like an ostrich, refused to see the fouling of the island beaches and foreshores. The remedies for this state of affairs were two-fold. One was permanent in its results and expensive in its inauguration; the other temporary, very simple, and very cheap. The only

(Continued on page 16)

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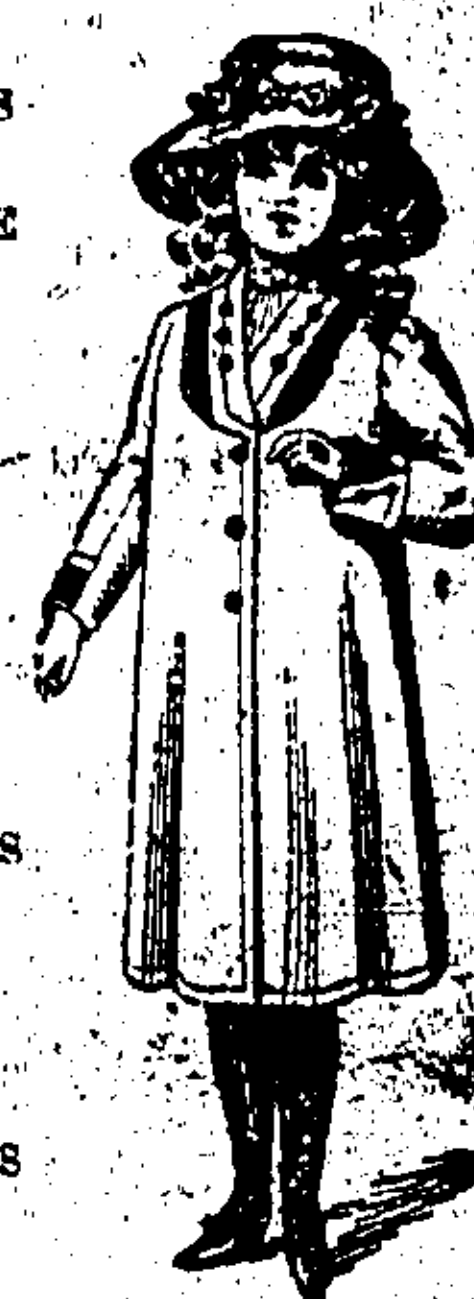
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